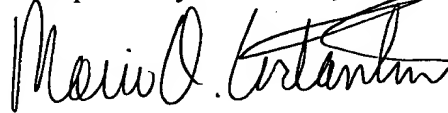


REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17 and 19-25 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21 are amended, claims 23-25 are added, and claims 2, 3, 10, 11 and 18 are canceled. The claims are amended as was done in the April 12, 1999 Amendment filed in the parent application. In the near future, Applicants will submit a further Response addressing the July 9, 1999 final rejection made in the parent application. The Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if such a Response is not present in the Patent Office's file when the Examiner picks-up this application for examination.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Mario A. Costantino  
Registration No. 33,565

JAO:MAC/ccs

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. Box 19928  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320  
Telephone: (703) 836-6400